

RANGE OF THERMOMETER

The thermometer ranged as follows at The Times office yesterday: 9 A. M., 53; 12 M., 50; 3 P. M., 50; 6 P. M., 51; 9 P. M., 53; 12 midnight, 49. Average temperature, 51.

VOL. 15. NO. 269.

ARE DOMINATED BY THE SENATE

Influence of Lower House Diminishing.

SO SAYS CRUMPACKER.

He Favors Burleigh Rather Than Hopkins Bill.

FINAL VOTE PROBABLE TO-DAY.

The Negro Question Was Discussed Incidentally by Mr. Wilson, of South Carolina—Mr. Hopkins Confident of His Measure's Passage.

(By Associated Press.)

WASHINGTON, Jan. 7.—The animated debate in the House on the reorganization of representation from the various States is nearing its close, it being unanimously agreed to-day that the final vote will be taken before the session closes to-morrow. The general debate will close at 3 o'clock.

Mr. Hopkins, of Illinois, expresses confidence that the bill bearing his name will be passed to-morrow, although there may be a slight change, giving an additional member to Florida, Colorado and North Dakota, bringing the total membership up to 369.

Mr. Kitchen, of North Carolina, the first speaker to-day, supported the Hopkins bill, but said he would vote against the amendment requiring the congressional districts in the several States to be "contiguous and compact." He said he did not believe Congress had the power to designate the manner in which the States should make up congressional districts.

Mr. Kitchen replied at some length to the speech made by Mr. Lantry, of North Carolina, last Saturday, attacking the Southern Democrats for disfranchising the negro.

DOMINATED BY SENATE.

Mr. Crumpacker, of Indiana, who presented the minority report of the Census Committee, in favor of reducing the representation in Southern States proportionate to the abridgment of the franchise, said that as between the Hopkins and Burleigh bills, he favored the latter. He argued that during recent years the influence of the House in legislation had steadily diminished, attributable to the members of the lower house allowing themselves to be dominated by the Senate. He said that the Senate, in the several States, had been "dominating" the House. He argued that during recent years the influence of the House in legislation had steadily diminished, attributable to the members of the lower house allowing themselves to be dominated by the Senate.

Mr. Crumpacker was frequently interrupted by members of the House, who were in favor of the Burleigh bill, and incidentally discussed the negro question in the South. He detailed the lavish expenditure and misappropriation during the period of negro rule in South Carolina. The worthy member of the House, who was in the South, and it was only against the criminal class, those guilty of an atrocious crime against women, that lynching was necessary.

NEGRO PROBLEM.

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Mr. Hepburn, of Iowa, declared that the House was no longer a deliberative body, having become so bulky as to lose its deliberative functions. The whole scheme and place of the House under the Constitution, Mr. Hepburn declared, was subverted, destroyed and annihilated by the rules of the House. Instead of representing his constituents every member surrendered his political power into the hands of others and was made to be heard on any measure without the consent of the officials and committees to whom the power was surrendered. The complete surrender of individual power was due to the members themselves and not to the speakers. Mr. Hepburn declared that he was interested in seeing the House membership further increased, for that carried with it the increase of influence and power of each individual senator and the further domination of the Senate.

Mr. Crow, of Pennsylvania, favored the Hopkins bill, and compared the workings of the House in the early days, when the membership was far more limited, with the disorderly and unrepresentative character of the body to-day.

Mr. Pearson, of North Carolina, supported the Burleigh bill, and argued against the Crumpacker bill, as the latter would be so carried out in the South as to wipe out the few Republican members now left from that section. He asserted that the time was fast coming when the disfranchisement practiced in the South would be wiped out.

At 5:10 P. M. the House adjourned.

In the Senate.

(By Associated Press.)

WASHINGTON, Jan. 7.—A notable speech was delivered in the Senate to-day by Mr. Lodge, of Massachusetts. Addressing the Senate on the amendments of the Military Committee striking out the provisions in the army reorganization bill for a veterinary corps, he discussed briefly, and principally in the form of a colloquy with Senator Bacon, of Georgia, the Philippine question and the necessity of an army of 100,000 men.

In conclusion he drew a brilliant picture of the commercial future of the United States, declaring that the trade conflict with Europe already begun could result only in the commercial and economic supremacy over the entire world.

The speech created a profound impression.

The Senate ratified the committee's proposition to eliminate the House provision for the establishment of a veterinary corps in the army.

Senator Teller, of Colorado, gave notice that he will offer for the entire pending measure, continuing in full force and effect the act of March 2, 1899, increasing the size of the army for three years from July 1, 1901.

Mr. Pettus, of Alabama, presented the credentials of his colleague, Hon. John T. Morgan, elected a senator from that State for the fifth time. His new term begins March 4, 1901. The credentials were filed.

The resolutions of Mr. Bacon and Mr. Pettus, relating to the declaration of

THE EXECUTIVE TO SEND TO THE SENATE THE REPORT OF A. L. LAWSHAW, AS TO THE POSTAL CONDITIONS IN CUBA, WERE CALLED UP, BUT WENT OVER.

A VETERINARY CORPS.

Discussion of the committee amendment striking out the provision for a veterinary corps in the army was begun.

Mr. Lodge, of Massachusetts, denounced as unjust any effort of that sort to place men taken from civil life in authority over men who had devoted their lives to army affairs. Discussing the general features of the measure, Mr. Lodge said: "In a short time I believe there will be peace and order throughout the Philippine Islands."

Mr. Bacon put this question to Mr. Lodge: "From your knowledge as chairman of the Philippine Committee of the conditions in the islands, will the army of 70,000 be needed there for a short time or for an indefinite time?"

Mr. Lodge replied: "I replied Mr. Lodge, 'that at the end of two years we will be able to reduce very largely the army in the Philippines. That is my belief.'"

After further discussion, in which Mr. Callahan, of New Hampshire, advocated amendment, and Messrs. Daniel, of Virginia, Butler, of North Carolina, and Tamm, of Vermont, and others opposed it, the Senate, by 43 to 13, ratified the action of the committee in striking out the provision for the proposed corps. Those who voted against the recommendation of the committee were Senators Clay, Gallinger, Hale, Heitfeld and Kenney.

Without further discussion the Senate, at 3 o'clock, went into executive session and soon afterward adjourned.

HATRED TO FOREIGNERS.

Seditious Newspapers Suppressed by Order of American Consul.

(By Associated Press.)

TACOMA, WASHINGTON, Jan. 7.—The steamship Tacoma brings news from Hong Kong that the American consul at Canton has ordered the suppression of several seditious native newspapers which were being circulated throughout Canton, advising the natives to rise against foreigners.

Some objection was made when the consul first protested. He pointed to this coast defense vessel Monterey, lying in the harbor, as evidence that his wishes must be respected. The victory then gave orders to suppress the seditious papers. The consul was regarded as due largely to the influence of these papers. Everywhere there is a strong undercurrent of hatred to foreigners.

CRITICAL SITUATION.

Americans Complain That Their Interests Are Not Protected.

(By Associated Press.)

WILLIAMSTADT, CARACAS, Jan. 7.—The American consul at Caracas, Venezuela, Mr. Loomis, has not yet succeeded in obtaining justice for the New York and Hermandez Aspinall Company in its dispute with the local authorities, and the situation is regarded as critical.

The Americans are complaining at alleged delay in obtaining protection for their interests. The local authorities, it is claimed, encouraged the natives to invade the company's plant.

BOYS MASSACRED.

Some Were Roasted Alive in the Churches by the Chinese.

(By Associated Press.)

LONDON, Jan. 7.—A Sister of Charity writing from the Maison des Jeunes Enfants at Ning-Ho, November 24th, describes the massacre at Nan-King of one hundred little boys. Some of them were roasted alive in the churches. Others escaped to the orphanage outside the city, but all were killed and the place burned.

"Despite threats of torture and the frequency of most painful deaths," the Sister declares, "apostasy was wonderfully rare."

EDITOR ARRESTED.

Charged With Seditious Libel in Criticizing General French.

(By Associated Press.)

CAPE TOWN, Jan. 7.—Mr. P. H. Main, editor of the Oude Land, the principal Afrikaander newspaper here, has been arrested on the charge of seditious libel, consisting of reflections upon the conduct of General French and his troops. He is a member of the Cape Parliament, and his arrest has long been demanded by the extremists accepted bail in the sum of £500.

RELATIONS STRAINED.

Colombian Troops Moving to Venezuela—Lan Border.

(By Associated Press.)

KINGSTON, JAMAICA, Jan. 7.—Letters received here from Panama say the relations between Colombia and Venezuela are much strained, in consequence of assistance being given by the former to the revolutionists in the latter country. Colombian troops are being moved to the border. The rebels are still receiving large supplies of arms and ammunition through Venezuela.

DRASTIC MEASURE IN PHILIPPINES

MacArthur Departs Captured Leaders of Insurgents to Island of Guam.

(By Associated Press.)

MANILA, Jan. 7.—General MacArthur has ordered the deportation of Generals Ricarte, Del Pilar, Hizon, Llanera and Santos to the island of Guam. Nine regimental and four subordinate officers, with eight civilians, including Trias, Trosen and Mabini, notorious assistants of the insurgents, have also been ordered to be deported.

It is General MacArthur's intention to send most of the active leaders of the rebels who have been captured to Guam, until the resumption of a condition of peace has been declared.

The first municipal election was held successfully at Baguio, province of Benguet, Saturday. The insurgents took part in the election.

The Filipinos in Manila have been enjoying recently a novel experience in the holding of free, open political meetings. Most of the addresses at these meetings were made by former officers of the insurgents, all of whom asserted that the best way of securing personal liberty is to accept the liberties guaranteed by the Constitution and government of the United States, which is what American sovereignty stands for. The audiences were greatly interested and many of those attending the meetings signed the Federal party declaration.

The construction of a rebel prison at Olongapo, in addition to those at Manila, will be begun shortly.

COUNCIL FAVORS THE NEW JAIL

Votes to Build a Fire-Proof Structure.

THE INCREASE OF PAY.

Resolutions Restoring Salaries are Recommended.

SAT DOWN HARD ON PEDDLERS.

License Tax of \$100 Per Year to Be Charged of "Hawkers" of Green Groceries, Wood and Coal.

The Carlew Ordinance Again Presented by Mr. Glenn.

(By Associated Press.)

The Common Council held a prolonged session last night and transacted a great deal of important business. President F. C. Ebel was in the chair, and the following members answered to their names: Adams, Allen, Bloomberg, Camp, Cottrell, Curtis, Glenn, Grimes, Gunst, McCarthy, Peters, Shea, Stein, Tanner, Williams, Whalen, Caslake, Hobson, Gibson, Winston, West, Garber, Miner, Tamm, Mills and Banks.

The resolution appropriating \$90,000 for the building of a new jail was passed with only one dissenting voice, Mr. Mills, of Jefferson Ward, voting in the negative.

After the transaction of some routine business Mr. Peters presented the report of the Committee on Streets. The report contained a recommendation that the Virginia Electrical Railway Company be given further time in which to complete its hydraulic and other works, and that the committee on Streets, in the meantime, make and adopt, providing for the paving and grading of certain streets and alleys.

THE JENKINS SYSTEM.

The ordinance requiring the Richmond Passenger and Power Company to equip its tracks from Twenty-eighth Street to Laurel Street with the Jenkins underground trolley system and prescribing the manner in which the work shall be done was reported favorably.

Mr. Caslake moved that the consideration of the measure be postponed until the next meeting of the Council, and that the City Attorney be requested in the meantime to give his opinion as to whether the Council had a right to pass such an ordinance and if so, whether it was in proper form. The motion of Mr. Caslake was adopted.

The next report was that of the committee on Railroads, which being formal, was received and filed.

Mr. Caslake, from the Finance Committee, reported an ordinance authorizing the purchase of enough ground to establish a driveway from the second street to the city hall, from Fifth Street.

Mr. Peters spoke in favor of the ordinance and it was adopted. An ordinance was reported and passed, fixing the salary of the cook at the colored Almshouse at \$120 per annum, payable in three installments.

An ordinance was passed directing the Auditor to mark satisfied certain tax bills against late tenants, in accordance with a recent decision of the Supreme Court.

FOR A NEW JAIL.

The jail matter then came in the form of an ordinance reported favorably for the appropriation of about \$90,000 for the building of a new fire-proof jail. Mr. Caslake spoke in favor of the measure. He said the committee had spent a great deal of time on the subject and had viewed a number of sites.

Mr. Caslake said he had examined a great many plans and had decided on the ordinance after most carefully considering the question in its every phase.

Mr. Mills said he favored a new jail, but he thought the Grounds and Buildings Committee should be allowed to select the site, and he moved that that portion of the resolution fixing the site be stricken out. Mr. Caslake said the committee required that it should select the site, and Mr. Gunst took the floor and made an urgent appeal for the adoption of the resolution without amendment.

MUCH DEBATE.

Mr. Bloomberg, who offered the resolution under which the Finance Committee was authorized to select the site, said that the resolution reported without amendment, and said if Mr. Mills' amendment was adopted the effect of the whole resolution would be killed and the matter would be where it was before the Council, under the Finance Committee. Mr. Mills, replying, said the position of the Finance Committee was a most remarkable one, and he thought the selecting of the site properly belonged to the Grounds and Buildings Committee.

Mr. Caslake replied warmly in favor of the report of the Finance Committee, and was followed by Mr. Banks, who said the action of that body was a reflection on the Grounds and Buildings Committee. He favored the present site, but did not think the Finance Committee should have charge of the plan.

Mr. Bloomberg again spoke for the resolution, as did also Mr. Gibson, chairman of the Grounds and Buildings Committee. Mr. Gunst replied to Mr. Gibson, and Mr. Caslake informed the Clay Ward member that a sub-committee on plans would recommend the details, and that they would be final. As for his part, he believed he spoke for his committee—he did not care to have anything to do with the details of building the jail.

After further remarks by Messrs. Mills and Banks, the Council adjourned on the motion offered by Mr. Mills, which was rejected by a vote of 25 to 1. Mr. Banks then sought to have that portion referring to plans struck out, but his amendment was quickly laid on the table on motion of Mr. Gunst. The resolution then passed by the following recorded vote:

Ayes—Messrs. Adams, Allen, Banks, Bloomberg, Camp, Caslake, Cottrell, Curtis, Garber, Gibson, Glenn, Gunst, Hobson, McCarthy, Miner, Peters, Shea, Stein, Tanner, Teeley, West, Whalen, Williams, Winston and Ebel—26.

Noes—Mills—1.

WILL BE PROMPTLY PAID.

The recommendation of the Finance Committee that the Auditor be instructed to pay the salaries of the city officials and employees until the annual budget is made up, and authorizing the Finance Committee to negotiate temporary loans was adopted.

When the ordinance from the Finance Committee increasing the tax upon peddlers and "hawkers" from \$20 to \$50 came up, Mr. Caslake expressed the committee's disapproval of the recommendation in justice to the green grocers, about 600 in

number. These people (the green grocers), he said, paid their taxes, gas and water bills and in other ways contributed to the support of the city government. He thought the green grocers deserved some protection in the hands of the city government. The ordinance, Mr. Caslake said, did not apply to a countryman selling the products from his own farm or one who sells the products from a neighbor's farm.

Mr. Grimes asked if the ordinance would apply to hawkers of coal and wood.

Mr. Caslake replied in the affirmative, and Mr. Grimes said he thought this would be a great hardship upon the poor people. He stated that there were people unable to go to the coal yards and make purchases, while they could buy a bushel of coal or a few sticks of wood from peddlers.

Mr. Winston said he thought it was the duty of the Council to protect both the regular dealer and the peddler. He was in favor of a system by which a person could take out a monthly license.

SHOULD CALL A HALT.

Mr. Hobson said it was time to call a halt in the matter of peddling goods. He said often some one would buy out the contents of a country store and peddle them. He was in favor of making the peddlers and hawkers license \$100.

Mr. Banks advocated the protection of the legitimate dealers and said that Mr. Glenn, the latter made an impassioned speech in behalf of the ordinance. He said the proposed law was designed to protect the people against impostors—people who buy up stale goods and pass them off as fresh articles from the country.

Mr. Hobson's motion to make the license \$100 per year was adopted by a vote of 13 to 12.

Mr. Caslake announced that at the next regular meeting of the Finance Committee, on Light, the subject of the Standard Oil Company to erect a tank for the storage of oil at the lower Gas Works came up. Mr. Miner opposed it. He thought this would mean the giving of this company a monopoly of furnishing oil to the city.

Mr. Grimes replied that there were four bidders when the contract was given the Standard company. The object of the ordinance was simply to afford the company better facilities for carrying out its contract. The company desired to bring oil here in large loads instead of in car loads.

Mr. Garber was not exactly satisfied with the ordinance. He feared that the city would suffer and that recovery for damages could not be made.

Mr. Bloomberg moved to so amend as to require the company to give bond in the sum of \$20,000 to cover damages to persons or property. This was agreed to, ayes, 16; noes, 9, and the ordinance was passed.

There was a lively debate when the resolutions from the Retirement Committee were introduced. The committee recommended the pay of a number of city officials be cut up. Mr. Hobson moved to recommend and to require the committee to carry out the spirit of the original resolution, which was that the committee should make up the various departments and investigate each individual case.

Mr. Gunst, a member of the committee, earnestly advocated recommendation in order that careful investigation might be made of each case.

Mr. Caslake proposed an amendment instructing the committee to also investigate and report as to whether or not the salaries of any officials should be reduced. This amendment was agreed to, and the motion to recommend was adopted.

CARS AND ENGINES.

Mr. Peters offered an ordinance compelling street car companies to require their cars to come to a standstill when crossing a railway track upon which cars are propelled by steam, and that the conductor shall go forward when an engine is passing and notify the motorman, who shall keep his car standing until said engine has passed. The ordinance fixes the penalty for the violation thereof at from \$10 to \$100 for each offense. This

(Continued on Second Page.)

RESIGNATION OF MR. E. ST. JOHN

Caused a Profound Sensation When Announced.

MUCH SPECULATION.

He Declines to Say Anything, But a Statement is Coming.

RYAN INTEREST IS MENTIONED.

The Position of Mechanical Superintendent Abolished by President Williams—Other Changes Made.

Those in Authority in Richmond Would Not Discuss the Matter.

(Special Dispatch to The Times.)

NORFOLK, VA., Jan. 7.—A profound sensation was caused here this afternoon by the announcement telegraphed from Richmond that Vice-President and General Manager of the Seaboard Air Line, St. John, had resigned. Asked to make a statement regarding the matter, Mr. St. John said: "You may say what I say that I have nothing to say to-night." It is anticipated that to-morrow he will tell why he resigned from the road which he has since January, 1899, managed with consummate ability.

That the system has sustained a great loss all seen here agree. As to what led to Mr. St. John's resignation speculation is rife and a variety of opinions are expressed. Some believe that President Williams' disapproval, recommendations made by Mr. St. John as to the appointment of certain minor officials and appointed men of his own selection instead.

Others believe that this is true, and that President Williams made these appointments as a concession to the Ryan case, and so as to save interest. Mr. St. John, however, is reported to have said that he has no fault to find with the system, and desired the attention of Mr. St. John, who has found them.

No event in transportation circles here has so stirred Norfolk and Portsmouth as the resignation of Mr. St. John, who has occupied a commanding place. Regret that friction arose which has over this section and the Seaboard so great loss is expressed by every one here.

AN OFFICE ABOLISHED. A circular issued this afternoon from the office of Vice-President St. John abolishes the position of mechanical superintendent, from which position Mr. Wm. T. Reed was to-day removed by President Williams. Mr. P. H. McGhee, of America, Ga., heretofore master mechanic of the fourth division, was also appointed superintendent of motive power with headquarters at Portsmouth, Va.

The duties of all master mechanics were also changed so as to provide for their reporting heretofore to the superintendent of their respective divisions instead of to the master mechanical superintendent as heretofore.

THE RESIGNATION.

NORFOLK, VA., January 7.—E. St. John, vice-president and general manager of the Seaboard Air Line Railway, has tendered his resignation, to take effect not later than January 15th.

During his administration Mr. St. John has greatly improved the property, increasing the value of its stock sevenfold. Mr. St. John declines to indicate his future movements, but his friends say that several important positions, one of them connected with a leading railway, are offered him.

THE REPORT HERE.

The resignation of Vice-President and General Manager E. St. John is the subject which would not be discussed by those in authority in the Seaboard offices here. The only knowledge of Mr. St. John's resignation that was had here, so it was claimed, was that gathered from the press reports, but while the reported resignation was not confirmed, neither was it denied.

Mr. R. S. French, general agent of the Kanawha Dispatch at this point, has just returned from a trip through southern Virginia, and says that, from present indications, the year's business will reach a high mark. The business for this season is very good.

Mr. W. A. Sullivan, formerly division freight agent at Chesapeake, and Ohio at Huntington, Va., was at the general offices to-day.

President John Skelton Williams, of the Seaboard Air Line system, declined to discuss the resignation of Mr. St. John. He stated that he had not a word to say about it.

TREATY FOR CHINA.

Draft of One Submitted by the British Minister.

(By Associated Press.)

SHANGHAI, Jan. 7.—Sir Ernest Mason Satow, British minister to China, has proposed to the other foreign envoys the draft of a commercial treaty with China based upon the following conditions: First, Freedom for all coasting vessels. Second, Freedom for all vessels on inland waters, especially the Yang Tse Kiang. Third, Permission to import foreign salt.

Fourth, Adoption of regulations encouraging Chinese investments in foreign concerns. Fifth, Steps extending China's exports and imports.

Sixth, Protection of trade marks. Seventh, Protection of treaty ports. The draft has not been accepted by the Powers, and discussion regarding it has been postponed.

Bigoted court officials, it is reported, still raise objection to signing an acceptance of the joint demands.

SUBMARINE BOATS.

The Trials at Cherbourg Were Highly Satisfactory.

(By Associated Press.)

CHERBOURG, Jan. 7.—Important trials of submarine boats took place here to-day. The Minister of Marine, M. De Lanessan, and the Minister of War, Gen. Andre, went to Cherbourg especially to watch the experiments. After an examination of the submarine boat Morse, M. De Lanessan boarded the Narval and proceeded to the roadstead, where a number of surface and submarine manue-

WYRES were carried out. General Andre witnessing them from the Imperator.

The submarine boat, tests concerned new electric accumulators invented by a French naval lieutenant. The trials resulted satisfactorily.

OFFICIAL STATEMENT.

Reading's Officers Authorized to Purchase Central of New Jersey.

(By Associated Press.)

PHILADELPHIA, Jan. 7.—At the conclusion of the meeting of the Board of Directors of the Reading Company, the following official statement was given out: "A meeting of the Board of Directors of the Reading Company was held at its office at 2 o'clock. The propositions from J. P. Morgan and Company, of New York, for the sale of the Central Railroad of New Jersey were submitted. President Harris recommended that the proposition should be accepted, as the two properties can be managed in connection with one another for the best advantage, and virtually supplement one another, giving his reasons in detail.

"After full consideration the officers of the company were authorized to arrange for the purchase of the Central Railroad of New Jersey, at 3:35 P. M., and no further statement of what transpired could be obtained.

It was said on behalf of President Harris, however, that any statements concerning the financing of the deal are premature.

TROOPS COMING HOME.

Thirty-Seventh Infantry Sail for the Philippines To-day.

(By Associated Press.)

MANILA, Jan. 7.—General MacArthur, accompanied by his staff, reviewed the Thirty-seventh Regiment of Volunteer Infantry on the Luneta field this evening. All the companies were together almost for the first time since the regiment was organized. After the review the regiment was drawn up in close order, and General MacArthur in a farewell address congratulated the officers and men on their bravery, discipline and judgment, commending their remarks with a hearty "God bless you, comrades."

The Thirty-seventh will sail for home on the transport Sheridan Thursday. More than half the men and many of the officers come from Tennessee.

SNOW IN PARIS.

Bodies of Tramps Found Frozen to Death.

(By Associated Press.)

PARIS, Jan. 7.—Snow is falling in Paris this evening for the first time this winter. Elsewhere in France extremely severe weather is recorded, accompanied by heavy snowfalls. Bodies of tramps frozen to death have been found at a number of places on the country side.

Trains Delayed.

(By Associated Press.)

MADRID, Jan. 7.—Heavy weather has set in throughout Spain. Snow is falling and the mail trains are delayed.

CANNOT BE STOPPED.

Expeditions Are the Only Way to Prevent Outrages.

(By Associated Press.)

PEKING, Jan. 6.—Count von Waldersee said that China's request that the expeditions should cease cannot be complied with at present. Where there are scenes of bloodshed or disorder troops are sent to interfere, this being the only means of preventing outrage.

FIRE IN HAMLET.

Large Part of Town Destroyed and Still Burning at Last Report.

(Special Dispatch to The Times.)

HAMLET, N. C., Jan. 7.—Fire caused by the explosion of a kerosene lamp has just destroyed nearly all the northern part of Hamlet. Several business houses and many dwellings have already burned, and at 7 o'clock P. M. the fire is still raging.

Evidence Insufficient.

(By Associated Press.)

NEW YORK, Jan. 7.—W. G. Thip